

TAFT'S ADVISERS IN FULL CONTROL OF PROCEEDINGS

Little Trace of Friction in National Commit- tee's Meeting.

CHICAGO NAMED AS CONVENTION CITY

Call Issued for Assembling of
Delegates on June 18—No
Further Move on Part of
Roosevelt's Friends—Sig-
nificant Political Inci-
dents During Day.

Washington, December 12.—With little trace of friction the Republican National Committee met here to-day and formulated the preliminary plans for the campaign of 1912. The program agreed upon was carried out expeditiously in two short sessions aggregating barely more than two hours. Chicago was chosen as the convention city, and the call was issued for the assembling of delegates on Tuesday, June 18 to nominate candidates for President and Vice-President.

Acting Chairman John F. Hill, former Governor of Maine, was unanimously elected chairman of the committee, after the acceptance of the resignation of Postmaster-General Frank H. Hitchcock, which went into effect on April 1, 1909. William Hayward, of Nebraska, was elected secretary to serve until the new national committee is organized in Chicago in June.

The committee adhered to the convention call of 1908, and the primary question, which had been the sole disturbing topic before the committee was left as it was four years ago. The champions of presidential preference primaries and State-wide primaries for the selection of delegates to the convention in States where primary laws are not operative were defeated. They were led by Senator Borah, of Idaho, who contended himself with a minority report from the committee on call, of which he was chairman, and with a brief speech to the committee. The meeting was unique in two respects: There was a complete absence of bitterness and the proceedings were conducted with open doors.

Meeting in Pro-Taft.
Politically, the meeting was pro-Taft. The President's advisers controlled the situation. Early in the day it became apparent that Secretary Hill and Arthur Vorys, national committee member from Ohio, were in control. The disincarnation of the day, General Hitchcock to endorse the selection of Colonel Harry S. New, former chairman of the committee and a member from Indiana, as chairman of the subcommittee on arrangements was overruled, and Mr. Hill took no part in the proceedings of the day. The Southern committee men, said to be opposed to Mr. New for fear that he favored a reduction in Southern representation, voted for the Indian, Franklin Murphy, of New Jersey. Arthur Vorys, of Ohio; R. E. Williams, of Oregon; E. C. Duncan, of North Carolina, and Victor Rosewater, Nebraska.

Chairman New announced after the meeting of the full committee that his subcommittee would meet in Chicago in January to begin the work of organizing the convention plans. The wishes of the Taft committee men prevailed throughout the meeting. The Ohioans and New Yorkers who had given publicity to the Roosevelt propaganda contented themselves with the program they have made. Walter Brown, leader of the Chicago Roosevelt band, took no part in the proceedings, while National Committee man William L. Ward, of New York, who did not attend the White House dinner Monday night, was in accord with the program adopted.

A committee of three was named to devise rules and regulations for the national committee and its officers which are to be reported to the 1912 convention. Ostensibly its function is to devise rules by which the treasurer and secretary of the committee shall be given places in the committee and entitled to vote.

Flash in Pan.
The expected and long-heralded row over the primary question proved a flash in the pan. The following members of the committee were appointed to draft the call: Messrs. Borah, of Idaho; Kellogg, of Minnesota; Ward, of New York; Rosewater, of Nebraska, and Capers, of South Carolina. The committee was appointed at the morning session, which began at 11:30 o'clock and retired immediately. Within an hour the committee had agreed to report.

Messrs. Kellogg, Ward and Capers signed the majority report, which empowered States with primary laws to select delegates by primary if their committees so decided, and Mr. Rosewater signed it with the reservation that he favored the primary idea. Mr. Borah submitted his minority report which added a provision that would permit presidential primaries in all States, regardless of the existence or non-existence of a primary law.

NAVAL PRIZE BILL REJECTED

House of Lords Defeats Measure by Vote of 145 to 52.

London, December 12.—The House of Lords to-night rejected the naval prize bill by a vote of 145 to 52. The Earl of Selborne, a moving force in the rejection, objected to the constitution of the proposed prize court, pointing out that it gave the British Empire only the same representation as that accorded petty Central American republics. Moreover, he said, the bill permitted an appeal from the British Privy Council to the prize court, but no corresponding appeal from the United States to the Supreme Court, the representatives of the United States having discovered that under their Constitution it is impossible to carry an appeal from their Supreme Court to any international tribunal.

It was therefore possible, Lord Selborne argued, to get two acts of conflicting judgments.

The naval prize bill passed its third reading in the House of Commons on December 7, but its rejection by the Lords had been predicted. The London Daily Telegraph, the rejection was determined upon by the Lords to prevent the government from ratifying the declaration of London. This procedure will delay the passage of the prize bill for two years, and the declaration of London cannot be ratified until the prize bill has received the royal assent.

NOW AMONG LEADERS

United States Makes Record in Speedy Battleship Construction.

Washington, December 12.—The old reproach that American battleships were so long building that they were obsolete by the time they were commissioned no longer applies. According to Chief Constructor R. M. Watt, in his annual report, the United States is now among the leaders in the rapidity of battleship construction. He attributes this to the adoption of good management, which he says means "knowing exactly what you want to do and then seeing that it is done in the best and most rapid way." This might be one way of describing the modern system of "scientific management."

In the face of this great reduction of time in the construction of naval vessels there has been a similar and rapid reduction in the cost of construction. The chief constructor declares that "the total cost per ton of displacement of battleships recently built by contract for the United States is less than that of previous years. States battleships, and less than that of similar foreign vessels."

DEVOTED TO THE POOR

Member of New York's Exclusive Sets
Becomes Philanthropist.

Chicago, December 12.—Frederick Townsend Martin, once prominent in New York's exclusive circles, is in Chicago as a guest of the National Business Congress, gave out the state of affairs at night that henceforth his life will be devoted to the salvation of the poor, the down-trodden and the unfortunate.

Martin was well known as a member of clubs in New York, Paris and Rome.

"My mission now is to solve the problem of poverty and banish misery," he said. "I have decided to devote my brain to devise ways to feed and entertain the idle rich, and shall be content hereafter to be known as the poor man's friend."

Mr. Martin said he had already taken up his life's work and declared that he would work to banish crime from the Whitechapel district of London and from the Bowery in New York, and remedy similar conditions in Chicago.

DIPS INTO WATER

Hydro-Aeroplane Gives Ducking to
Lieutenant Rodgers and Passenger.

Annapolis, Md., December 12.—While engaged in experimental flights in a Curtiss hydro-aeroplane yesterday afternoon Lieutenant John Rodgers, the navy's expert aeronaut, and Ensign Victor Herbert, his passenger, were hurled into the water.

Neither was hurt, however, nor was the aircraft damaged to any extent. The accident occurred near Greenbury Point, where the plane was flying at an altitude of between 100 and 200 feet. Lieutenant Rodgers started the machine downward, with the object of making a skidding landing. As it neared the water it seemed to have a little too much speed and failed to right itself. A Naval Academy launch went to the rescue.

NOW FOR CHRISTMAS TREES

Mayor Shank, of Indianapolis, Plans for
Tree Sale.

Indianapolis, Ind., December 12.—Mayor Shank, who recently sold several carloads of potatoes and more than 1,000 Thanksgiving turkeys to the public at cost, is now planning to import Christmas trees which he will sell at the lowest possible cost.

"I am told," said the Mayor yesterday, "that the people are getting tired of the same old Christmas trees, and that about all they would cost us would be the labor for handling them and freight to get them here. I am bringing in a few foreign trees, and every person have a Christmas tree at a reasonable price."

WILL HANDLE COTTON FUND

Alabama Governor Will Appoint Three
Members on That State's Committee.

Emmet O'Neal, of Alabama, said to-day that he would appoint three members to compose Alabama's committee on the back of cotton fund, which, it is said, will be furnished by New York bankers to finance the cotton crop. Governor O'Neal was not prepared to announce the personnel of the committee.

INJURED MAN'S STOICISM

Picks Up Severed Arm, Wraps It, and
Goes to Hospital.

Binghamton, N. Y., December 12.—Picking up his right arm, severed from his body when he fell beneath the wheels of a moving train at Norwich, Conn., last night, Andrew Marton carried the member to the railroad roundhouse, calmly wrapped in up and then hurried to a hospital. He took his place on the operating table without flinching, through the operation necessary to remove the crushed fragments without asking for an anesthetic.

Tariff Is Considered.

Washington, D. C., December 12.—The general tariff situation and particularly President Taft's forthcoming message to Congress on the subject of tariff schedules were discussed at length by the Cabinet to-day. The message will be sent to Congress next week, and it was said to-day it will be brief.

BEST SERVICE TO CALIFORNIA.
Standard or Tourist. Later personally conducted route, leaving Dec. 13, Wash. Sunset, Route 27, Main Street.

KING PROCLAIMED EMPEROR OF INDIA

George V. and Consort Crowned With Mag- nificent Ceremony.

PRINCES OF EAST PLEDGE LOYALTY

Scene for Richness of Color and
Beauty of Decorations Prob-
ably Never Surpassed in Mod-
ern Times—Money Dona-
tion for Education An-
nounced by King.

Delhi, India, December 12.—King George V. and his consort, Queen Mary, were to-day proclaimed Emperor and Empress of India. The culminating act of the English monarch's accession to the throne of his vast Indian dominions took place amid a scene which for richness of color and magnificence of decorations probably has never been surpassed in modern times.

The crowning was followed by an act of generosity on the King-Emperor's part, of which a slight hint had already been given. The Viceroy proclaimed that the King-Emperor was to donate a large sum of money to promote popular education, and that further handsome gifts would be made.

Another important change announced by Lord Hardinge was that the seat of government was in future to be transferred from Calcutta to Delhi.

Brilliant scene followed.

The huge amphitheatre which had been erected in the Durbar camp was thronged from an early hour. The bright tissues and sparkling gems of many Indian princes and the smart uniforms of the soldiery contrasted strongly with the white dress of the European women and the sober garb of civilian officials.

The great feudatory princes and rulers of India, with the leading British officials, occupied seats of honor near the pavilion located in the center of the Durbar camp. The curious by a little framework a number of maharajahs and other Indian ladies of high rank occupied two sections of the front galleries.

The interval of waiting was beguiled by the playing of military music. The band played a large part in the Durbar, and the Viceroy and Lady Hardinge sat in their state carriage, drawn by blooded horses, with outriders uniformed in scarlet and gold.

Royal Party Approaches.

Then the booming of an imperial salute announced the approach of the Emperor and Empress. The royal carriage drawn by four magnificent horses was almost hidden from view by a gaily caparisoned escort. The Emperor wore a robe of imperial purple, a surcoat of purple, with white satin breeches and silk stockings. He was decked with the collars of the orders of the Garter and the Star of India, and also with the star of the latter order. The imperial crown consisted of a band of diamonds, studded with large emeralds and sapphires, with rubies in the centre and a cap of purple velvet turned up with ermine. The Queen-Empress's dress was of white satin, embroidered with a design of roses, thistles and shamrocks, with a border of lotus flowers. The Star of India embroidered the front of her dress. Her Majesty's imperial robe was of purple velvet, lined with ermine, and with a border of gold braid. She wore the orders of the Garter and the Star of India. Her ornaments were a diamond and emerald necklace and brooches.

Carriage after carriage with members of the royal household followed. The guard presented arms and the bands burst into the royal anthem. The combined processions proceeded slowly to the great central tent, where Their Majesties stood up to receive the homage and congratulations of the governors, ruling princes and other representatives of British India.

orgueous Uniforms Worn.

When this gorgeously uniformed line had filed past the imperial and viceregal parties appeared before the vast assemblage in the Durbar amphitheatre. When they took their seats on the crimson velvet cushions of the national anthem were heard, and people rose as one person and stood in profound silence.

It was a pretty group around the four thrones of the Emperor, the Empress, the Viceroy and the Vicereine, at the back of which stood the viceregal staffs and the imperial corps, composed entirely of youthful princes and sons of princely families, formed in rank.

The first formal act of the ceremony was performed by the foreign secretary, who advanced to the dais and asked permission of the Emperor to open the Durbar. At his signal a long roll from the drums and a thrilling call from the bugles were sounded, followed by a triumphant peal of music from the bands. Then a note from the heralds' silver trumpets rang over the plain.

At that moment appeared the striking figure of the imperial herald, mounted on a jet-black charger and blazing in his brilliant uniform of gold and purple. Behind him were a drum-major and a band of music.

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SHERWOOD BILL PASSED BY HOUSE

Provides Increased Pen- sions to an Amount Exceeding \$40,000,000

SENATE MAY NOT ACT FAVORABLY

Measure Is Vigorously Opposed
by Several Democratic Leaders,
and Eight Republicans Cast
Vote Against It—Fight
Waged Largely Along
Political Lines.

Washington, D. C., December 12.—The Sherwood service pension bill, which would add upwards of \$40,000,000 to the government annual expenditures by granting increased pensions to Civil and Mexican War veterans on the basis of length of service, was passed by the House to-night, despite the determined opposition of many Democratic leaders. Secretary of the Interior Fisher had estimated that the bill would add \$75,000,000 to the pension roll of the 100,000 veterans eligible for the benefit of this increase in wage.

Eight Republicans voted with the eighty-four Democrats against the bill. Speaker Clark voted with the majority of his party for the bill, and Democratic Leader Underwood and Fitzsimmons, of New York, chairman of the Appropriations Committee, voted against it.

The bill now goes to the Senate, where there is a disposition to pass some form of amended service pension legislation. Senate leaders, however, are opposed slowly in the consideration of this legislation. Many House Democrats voted for the measure in the belief that the Senate would not pass it.

The following basis of pensions: For thirty to ninety days to six months, \$15 per month; from six to nine months, \$20 per month; from nine months to one year, \$25 per month; more than one year, \$30 per month.

Changes Made in Bill.

Two important changes were made in the Sherwood bill during the all-day battle over it. The bill was amended by Representatives Rauch, of Indiana, and Cox, of Ohio, struck out the provision denying entrance to Federal soldiers' homes of veterans receiving more than \$20 a month, and refusing of State aid for a local aid for the support of such pensioners.

The redistribution against the payment of any pension to a veteran whose income exceeds \$1,000 a year was voted out, on the motion of Representative Rucker, of Colorado.

The bill as amended was a considerable along political lines to a considerable extent, and members of each party charged the other party with buncombe in "their attitude toward the old soldiers."

Prominent Democrats attacked the bill as inimical to the Democratic principles of economy and destruction of the plans to reduce the tariff.

Chairman Fitzgerald, of the Appropriations Committee, fought it because of its tremendous draft on the treasury. Representative Harri-son, of New York, a leading Democrat, declared that the bill "knew" in the face all pretensions made by the Democratic party in the last campaign.

Percy Attacks Hearst.

Washington, December 12.—Senator Leroy Percy, of Mississippi, rose to a question of personal privilege in the Senate to-day and delivered a scathing denunciation of an article relating to his election published in the November number of a popular magazine. He also bitterly attacked William H. Hearst, who, he said, owned the magazine and inspired the article.

Senator Percy, who is now in Mississippi, declared that the bill "knew" in the face all pretensions made by the Democratic party in the last campaign.

He also said he would urge an inquiry if one were asked for by the Mississippi Legislature, which, he declared, had ridden into office by the same tidal wave that had nominated Vardaman.

Tongue-lashing Vardaman, Senator Percy declared that the former was now defendant in a suit filed by the Attorney-General of Mississippi, charging embezzlement of trust funds. Mr. Hearst was characterized as "a statesman without a record; a mendacious muckraker without a peer," whose "bitter, malignant and incendiary utterances caused him to be held by the country morally responsible for the slanders fired into the body of William McKinley."

Every allegation of corruption mentioned in the magazine article, the Senator said, had been proved by the courts or Legislature of Mississippi and found wanting. In the face of the wide publicity given the charges and the "avid and glowing endorsement" by the Senator-elect from Mississippi, Senator Percy said he could not, as he has announced, carry out his intention of presenting his resignation as Senator to the State Legislature next month.

Vardaman Asks Indemnification.
Jackson, Miss. December 12.—United States Senator-elect James K. Vardaman to-day filed petition for an injunction to prevent hearing of a suit filed against him, asking for an ac-

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MAY GET CARUSO FOR BIG FESTIVAL

Wednesday Club Plans to Bring Other Stars Here in Spring.

GRAND OPERA IS ULTIMATE GOAL

Semi-Annual Seasons Discussed
at Annual Meeting of Club.
Proposition Is to Make Af-
fair of 1912 Greatest in
History of Organi-
zation.

Seventy-five members of the Metropolitan Grand Opera chorus, the Metropolitan Orchestra, Madame Alma Gluck, prima donna of that organization, six opera stars to be chosen from such names as Caruso, Riccardo Martin, Geraldine Farrar, Louise Homer and Madame Schumann-Heink, Zimbalist, the Russian virtuoso, and the famous Richmond pianist, John Powars, will be brought here to augment and assist the chorus of the Wednesday Club in giving this city next spring the greatest music festival in its history.

Such are the plans outlined and enthusiastically adopted last night at the annual meeting of the Wednesday Club at the Jefferson Hotel.

Going After Chorus.

Louis E. Weltzel, organist and choir-master of the Grace Street Presbyterian Church, and for years the accompanist of the club, was chosen by the club to be the first to begin immediately the difficult task of organizing and welding together a singing body of four or five hundred local voices. January 2 was named as the night for the first meeting of the chorus, by which time preliminary details will have been arranged. The board of governors will secure immediately a suitable hall for rehearsals.

According to the plans already agreed upon, Richmond will be given next May its first concert, in which the most celebrated and accomplished artists of the musical world will appear. The Wednesday Club will give to the city grand opera for the stage setting and the costumes. Correspondence between President J. G. Corley, of the Wednesday Club, and the directors of the Metropolitan Opera Company disclosed the fact that many of the company's organization could be engaged for a local concert at reasonable rates, as the company can stop over here either going or returning from Atlanta.

Want Operatic Music.
When it was found that the week opera in Atlanta fell at the time of the annual Festival here, the board of governors immediately met and recommended the adoption of the following resolution:

"Resolved, That in the opinion of this board, it is desirable to give operatic music in concert form at the approaching festivals, and to that end engage forthwith a local chorus and engage a soprano of the Metropolitan chorus to sing in connection with the local chorus, provided it is found practical to blend the two choruses."

This resolution was unanimously adopted, after the fear of some members had been allayed that the introduction of the Metropolitan chorus and the singing of operatic music would result in the dissolution of the Wednesday Club. The board of governors assured the members, however, that such was not the intent of the resolution, and made clear that the Metropolitan chorus was designed to augment the Wednesday Club chorus of 400 or 500 voices.

Lively discussion was provoked when President Corley suggested that two festivals be given each year under the auspices of the Wednesday Club, a midwinter concert of purely oratorio music to be sung by the Wednesday Club chorus and an orchestra, and a May Festival of grand opera to be given by the Metropolitan company in its entirety, to consist of the full performance of two or three operas.

Radical as this suggestion seemed, it was enthusiastically endorsed by H. T. Meloney, "the father of the Wednesday Club," in a speech which pointed out the need for radical action on the part of the club to preserve its position and educational power. He called this suggestion the eventual solution. Had it not been demonstrated that the club has no auditorium with a stage suited to the production of grand opera, it is probable that the club would have adopted the semi-annual festival plan last night. As it stood, conviction was expressed that within the year, the Wednesday Club must make arrangements to give high-class operatic music.

With Atlanta, Washington, Philadelphia, Boston and many smaller cities having their seasons of Metropolitan opera, it was agreed that Richmond demanded and would shortly get a similar operatic festival. The progressives in the club say that if grand opera is to come here, it should come under the auspices of the Wednesday Club, and from the enthusiasm shown on the subject last night, it seems certain that such will shortly be the case.

Real Opera Stars.
Immediately after the adoption by the club of the resolution concerning the Metropolitan chorus, President Corley announced that the services of the Metropolitan Orchestra had been obtained for the coming festival. Madame Alma Gluck, whose wonderful voice captured the hearts of those who heard her at the last festival, has also been engaged. Mr. Corley stated, in addition, five of the shining lights of the New York opera are to be signed up, as soon as possible. The selection is to be made from the stars

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SUCCESSOR TO WYMAN

Dr. J. H. White Will Be Named as
Surgeon-General.

Washington, December 12.—It became known from an authoritative source this morning that Dr. J. H. White, surgeon in the Public Health and Marine Hospital Service, has been chosen to succeed the late Surgeon-General Walter Wyman as head of that service.

Dr. White is now in charge of the New Orleans district, and is regarded as one of the most capable officials in the entire service. He led the fight against yellow fever in New Orleans a few years ago and scored a great triumph over the malarial disease in the White House that Dr. White will be given the position.

M'CREARY INAUGURATED

Receives Chair as Governor of Ken-
tucky After Lapse of 32 Years.

Frankfort, Ky., December 12.—Next to Kentucky's incoming Democratic Governor, M. M. McCreary, and the retiring Governor, Augustus S. Morgan, positions of honor at the inauguration were occupied by the twelve surviving members of the old McCreary Guards. This was a military organization in Frankfort in 1877 during Governor McCreary's first administration. Since that time, the McCreary Guards have been scattered to the four winds of the State. In electing Governor McCreary Kentucky returned to the Democratic column.

Many personal and political friends who attended the first inauguration were present to-day, along with the 2,000 members of the McCreary Guards. The McCreary Guards were marching clubs from the various parts of the State. In electing Governor McCreary Kentucky returned to the Democratic column.

NO TRACE OF ROBBERS

Believed Men Who Held Up A. C. L.
Train Escaped to North.

Savannah, Ga., December 12.—Though officers of two States and several cities have searched far and wide, they seemed to have no idea to-night the solution of the mystery of the hold-up of the Coast Line train No. 80, north-bound, near Hardenville, S. C., early this morning, and robbed of \$35,000, the value of the property is estimated at \$5,000. One man was arrested, but he was released, according to local officers.

Bloodhounds were put on the trail of the robbers, but they were not allowed to enter the country for probably a mile, then circled back to the railroad. Officers believe this indicates that the robbers made a wide detour, and in a later north-bound train, boarding at a station, they were the hold-up and possibly while officers were searching for them but a few hundred yards away.

ATTACK IS UNSUCCESSFUL

Turkish Troops Attempt to Break
Through Advanced Lines of Allies.

Benghazi, Tripoli, December 12.—Another attack was made by Turkish troops last night. They attempted to break through the advanced lines of the British and French troops, but were repulsed with a loss of thirty-eight dead. The Italian officers say Italian troops lost three dead and one wounded.

British Steamer Fired On.

Marseilles, France, December 12.—The British steamer Baron Polwarth, which sailed from London on November 8 for this port, arrived on November 12, and was fired upon by an Italian cruiser while passing through the Straits of Gibraltar. Her bows were badly damaged, and she came into port. The captain says that the commander of the Italian cruiser apologized for the occurrence.

GOVERNMENT NOT WARNED

Emphatic Denial of Statement Bearing
on Destruction of the Maine.

Washington, December 12.—Emphatic denials were made to-day at the State, War and Navy Departments of the possession of any information concerning the destruction of the Maine by a mine. A. C. Brice, who was warned of the approaching destruction of the Maine two days in advance by a Cuban spy, was not warned of the destruction of the Maine. When the ship was destroyed, also says that no warning was given to the government of officials that only through a working confession, if at all, will the secret be disclosed.

ANOTHER VENIRE SUMMONED

Seven Men Remain in Jury Box for
Trial of Chicago Packers.

Chicago, December 12.—The trial of the ten Chicago meat packers indicted for violation of the criminal provisions of the Sherman Antitrust law, was adjourned to the usual hour because of the absence of seven veniremen. When court convenes to-morrow fifty veniremen are expected to appear. Excuses will first be heard, and in the meantime the process will be recommenced. At the adjournment seven men remained in the jury box out of the twelve tendered earlier in the day by the packers' counsel to the government.

WILL MAKE NO COMPROMISE

Hui-Fung-Kah Instructed to Hold Out
for Chinese Republic.

San Francisco, Cal., December 12.—The revolutionary government at Canton dispatched its delegate Hui-Fung-Kah, to Shanghai to-day with instructions to hold out firmly for a Chinese Republic. He is to be accompanied by a convention, according to a dispatch received from Canton by the Chung Sai Yat Po. Hui has been forbidden to make any compromise.

In a clash between soldiers and a robber band on Suy-Hoy River, the dispatch adds, where many have been killed and a number of others captured. These were put to death.

BOYLE GETS CONTRACT

New York Sculptor Will Erect Statue
to Commodore Barry in Washington.

Washington, December 12.—After many delays and much controversy, a contract has been concluded with John J. Boyle, of New York, sculptor, for the erection in this city of a statue to Commodore Barry, famous in the early naval annals of the republic. Congress appropriated \$50,000 for this purpose in 1902.

BOARD ADOPTS ORIGINAL PLAN, WHICH GOES TO LOWER BRANCH

Health, Police and Fire Departments Stricken Out of Amended Ordinance.

WHOLE CITY IS NOW CUT DOWN TO FOUR WARDS

Common Council Reduced From
Membership of Forty to
Twenty, With Twelve Instead
of Twenty-Four Aldermen,
Great Crowd in Chamber and
Corridors Cheers Wildly as
Better System of Government
Is Provided—Regarded as Cer-
tain That Council Will Concur,
Owing to Tremendous Pres-
sure From Business People.
Special Meeting to Be Called
for Final Action.

Division of the city into four wards was concurred in by the Board of Aldermen last night by a vote of 15 to 9. The original plan for an administrative board, as proposed by the special committee, was adopted by the decisive vote of 15 to 5, all amendments contained in the Hirschberg substitute being stricken out, and the paper was sent back to the Common Council for concurrence as amended.

The ordinance redistricting the city into four wards of approximately equal population reduced the membership of the Common Council from forty to twenty members, and of the Board of Aldermen from twenty-four to twelve, taking effect from September 1 next. The new Council will be selected at a special election on the general election day, Tuesday in June.

Amendments Rejected.

By adoption of amendments offered by Mr. Don Leavy, the Board eliminated from control of the proposed administrative board the Fire, Police and Health Departments, which, under the original ordinance, were to be controlled by the Board of Aldermen. The amendments bring the paper back to just what was originally recommended to the Council, other amendments proposing submission of the matter to popular vote, and the appointment instead of election of members of the proposed board, being rejected.

President Peters said that as soon as the smoke had cleared away a little a special meeting of the Common Council would be called, probably for next Monday night, to take up the question of concurrence in the administrative board ordinance as amended by the Board of Aldermen. The four-ward redistricting ordinance goes to the Mayor for his final signature as soon as it is engrossed.

Vote Wildly Cheered.

Every member of the Board of Aldermen was in his seat when President Whitte's gavel fell last night, and more than 300 people were standing in the limited public space within the hall, while outside the corridors and stairways were packed with citizens, waiting eagerly for news of better and progressive government.

Applause rang frequently through the house, and was echoed back from the halls, spectators being apparently in favor of the whole ordinance as it came from the Council and showing no approval when the vote was announced eliminating the Fire, Police and Health Departments. The vote was expressed that this move would result in a deadlock in the two branches and the delays that could only spell defeat. Leading advocates of the plan, however, including members of the special committee, which drafted it and of the Council, are unanimous and hearty support, predict that not less than thirty Councilmen will come out for the Administrative Board, now that the Police, Fire and Health Departments have been excluded.

Earliest and open canvassing for votes went on throughout the chamber both before the meeting and during the reading of the minutes and other preliminaries. A quick poll showed only eleven Aldermen who would certainly vote for the Administrative Board with the Hirschberg amendments, and it was considered dangerous to force the issue on that vote, although Mr. Hobson, Colonel Grundy and others fought hard to the last for a clear-cut vote for the whole proposition just as it came from the lower branch.

Four Ward Plan First.
The redistricting ordinance came first, and its reading was dispensed with. It was reported as a substitute for a five ward paper offered by Councilman Ratcliffe last February, he having been the first to propose the reduction of the Council by cutting down the number of wards. It was recalled that there was open laughter in the body when the paper was first offered, the campaign of education of the past ten months having produced wonderful results.

Mr. Don Leavy, for the advocates of the ordinance, stated that it was so evident that a reduction was necessary, and since redistricting was the plain duty of the Council the paper would be submitted to a vote without argument, unless the opposition raised questions which needed to be answered. The argument was brief, Mr. Powers held that the whole matter

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